

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 231712

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, OEXC, CY

SUBJECT: VISIT OF GEORGE PELAGHIAS

1. SEPTEMBER 16 GEORGE PELAGHIAS, DIRECTOR GENERAL CYPRIOT FOREIGN OFFICE, CONCLUDED US VISIT WITH LONG SUBSTANTIVE TALKS WITH HARTMAN AND BAKER, IO, AND ATTENDED A SMALL LUNCH HOSTED BY UNDER SECRETARY HABIB.

2. IN MEETING WITH HARTMAN, PELAGHIAS BRIEFLY DISCUSSED CYPRIOT ELECTION RESULTS, NOTING CHIEF EFFECT WOULD BE THAT LARGE RIGHT-CENTER MAJORITY, HEADED BY KYPRIANOU, NOW HAS A POLITICAL BASE IN THE LEGISLATURE. HE SAID THAT LEFTISTS, SUCH AS LYSSARIDES, CAME OUT CONSIDERABLY
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WEAKER, AS EVIDENCED BY SHRUNKEN CIRCULATION OF LEFTIST

PARTY NEWSPAPERS.

3. TURNING TO EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, PELAGHIAS EMPHASIZED CYPRIOT DISAPPOINTMENT WITH RECENT SOVIET POLICY. SAYING THIS HAS "CREATED HAVOC" ON THE LEFT, HE MADE MUCH OF MAKARIOS' REFUSAL TO GO TO MOSCOW. ON INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS, PELAGHIAS STRESSED EVEN STRONGER GREEK CYPRIOT WILLINGNESS, BASED ON OVERWHELMING MANDATE RECEIVED FOR MAKARIOS' POLICY IN SEPT 5 ELECTIONS, TO GO BACK TO HIGH-LEVEL TALKS AND SAID THAT HE SAW RENEWED WALDHEIM

INVITATION TO PAPADOPOULOS AND ONAN AS POSITIVE STEP. PELAGHIAS PLAYED USUAL TUNE REGARDING TURKISH INTRANSIGENCE, SAYING THAT AS LONG AS THE TURKISH SIDE WAS UNWILLING TO DISCUSS TERRITORY, HE FELT ANY ATTEMPT TO GET TALKS GOING AGAIN WOULD "SIMPLY BE WASTE OF OUR TIME."

4. ON UPCOMING UNGA, PELAGHIAS SAID HE WAS NOT YET SURE WHEN THE ARCHBISHOP WOULD ARRIVE. HE SAID HE THOUGHT THE CYPRIOTS WOULD WORK FOR LANGUAGE CALLING FOR PRACTICAL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EXISTING UN RESOLUTIONS ON CYPRUS.

5. ON TACTICS FOR UNGA, HARTMAN GAVE PERSONAL VIEW THAT GOC WOULD BE BETTER OFF NOT HANDING TURKS A NEW PROCEDURAL ISSUE BY INSISTING ON INITIAL DEBATE IN GA PLENARY. PELAGHIAS, THOUGH NON-COMMITAL, SAID THIS WOULD DEPEND IN PART ON RESULTS OF ONAN-PAPADOPOULOS DISCUSSIONS WITH WALDHEIM IN NEW YORK THIS WEEK. HE WENT ON TO MAKE STRONG PITCH FOR NEW US INITIATIVE, INCLUDING INTERVENTION BY THE SECRETARY, TO GET INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS MOVING AGAIN. HE FELT DEMIREL, CARAMANLIS AND CERTAINLY MAKARIOS WOULD RESPOND TO A PERSONAL CALL FROM THE SECRETARY FOR RENEWED SERIOUS NEGOTIATIONS. PELAGHIAS ALSO EXPRESSED SERIOUS CONCERN REGARDING POSSIBILITY OF "IRREVERSIBLE STEP" SUCH AS UDI, AND OVER TURKISH AGGRESSIVENESS, CITING AVLONA INCIDENTS. HE CHARACTERIZED DIFFICULTIES IN THIS SPHERE AS STEMMING FROM HARD-NOSED TURKISH MILITARY WHO PAY LITTLE ATTENTION TO POLITICAL DIRECTION FROM ANKARA.

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6. HARTMAN EXPRESSED OUR CONCERN FOR INJUDICIOUS STATEMENTS IN CYPRUS PRESS WHICH DO NOT REFLECT REAL ATTITUDE OF GOC LEADERSHIP, BUT WHICH ARE PICKED UP AND HEADLINED BY GREEK LOBBY HERE. PELAGHIAS RESPONDED THAT HE HAD BECOME MUCH MORE AWARE FROM HIS US VISIT OF HOW TROUBLESOME THESE COULD BE AND SAID HE WOULD TALK WITH "THE RIGHT PEOPLE" ABOUT THE MATTER UPON HIS RETURN.

7. AT LUNCHEON, HABIB REITERATED SECRETARY'S PERSONAL INTEREST IN VIGOROUS PROSECUTION OF DAVIES' ASSASSINS. PELAGHIAS PROMISED CONTINUED FULL GOC COOPERATION IN DAVIES MATTER. ROBINSON

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